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The Polish Insurrection.

For more than two months, says the New York Commercial Advertiser, the aspect of the Polish insurrection has scarcely varied. Events have repeated each other with almost a dreary monotony, until the public have lost much of the interest which would otherwise have attached to the heroic struggle. There has yet been no encounter in which ten thousand combatants on each side took part. No vast field has been rendered historical, such as was the case during the previous wars for independence. In this the patriots under the guidance of the invisible National Committee, may have acted a very judicious part; but it was one calculated to make the issue of less absorbing interest in the eyes of the world than it would otherwise have been. At the call of a secret associating, nobody knows who or how appointed, the patriots have shouldered their scythes or muskets and repaired to the adjoining woods, to muster under the command of newly extemporized leaders. In obedience to orders they have sallied forth upon detachments of the Russians; have fought with a desperation that knows no quarter; have destroyed the foe man or chased him over the border into foreign territory. Or it may be that the Poles have been overwhelmed by superior numbers and forced to betake themselves to flight, their leaders being captured and shot, and their villages given to the flames. Such, we say, has been the ordinary course of events for many months past in that unhappy country.

But very recently one or two changes have taken place upon the board—changes that augur unfavorably to the patriotic cause. Prominent among these has been an expedition into Volhynia, now on the eastern side of the kingdom proper, but a province of ancient Poland. The object of this attempt to extend the insurrection into Russia was not only for the procurement of aid, but for the purpose of giving the Czar employment for his armies elsewhere. The troops employed numbered barely two thousand, under command of Wysocki, Miniewski and Horodyski. This handful of men, separated into three divisions, was to concentrate upon and attack the frontier town of Radziwillow, on the 1st inst. Unfortunately the Austrian authorities got wind of the expedition, part of which had to pass through Galicia; and by an imposing demonstration forced the centre and right of the invading army to make a detour of twenty miles. The only body which arrived in time was the left wing under Horodyski, who at once commenced the attack. The Russians retreated to the centre of the town, it is supposed with the design of drawing the Poles after them until the former should be disordered in the narrow streets. If so the plan succeeded. The Poles were

attacked and woefully cut up; and the rest were glad to betake themselves to flight. The attempt at capturing the place had to be abandoned.

Whatever doubt existed on the subject before, it is now certain that the Volhynian Poles have lost nearly all sympathy with the cause of their ancient country and race. But where it otherwise, the influx of Russian and Ruthenians has been such as to measurably overawe the native stock in that Russian government. During the uprising of 1830 reported attempts were made by the patriots to organize an insurrection beyond the Bug, but with a uniform lack of success. In spite of occasional outbreaks in the provinces further North, it is now all but certain that the Czar will be able to concentrate the greater portion of his immense forces upon the kingdom proper.

While this source of comfort to the insurgents has thus dried up, it is further apparent that the newly emancipated peasantry feel indisposed to take an active part in the contest. Kept for ages in a semi-brutalized condition by the aristocratic class, they have come to expect quite as much from the liberal policy of the Czar as from their own nobility, who made no concessions until the services of the serfs were required in the field. The patriotic elements comprise the landed interests, the burghers, and all the educated people of the country. But in three cases out of four the men who cannot read are nearly apathetic on the great issue, and as often will furnish information or guidance to the invader as to their own countrymen.

If the cause of Polish independence be destined to failure—and at present it must be admitted to look gloomy enough—it will be owing to the dense ignorance and wretchedness in which the peasantry were suffered to live before the war broke out. It will be remembered that after its commencement the National Committee proclaimed not only liberty for all, but pledged to every patriotic combatant a small portion of the public lands, to be held in perpetuity. But the offer came too late, the Czar having anticipated it by his efforts on behalf of the down-trodden serfs. The friends of Poland must lay the foundation stone of nationality deep in a system of popular education if they expect to succeed.

Louisville Journal.

Johnny how do you feel with your head shaved. John Morgan has not got anybody's mule lately that we know of, but he has got his head shaved! Wonder how those dear ladies, who have been in the habit of kissing the renowned hero, would like to take a "Buss" since his head has been shaved, and he is permitted to adorn a place in the Ohio penitentiary, a suitable position for his habits?

Violating The Parole.

Among the rebel prisoners recently captured in Virginia, who arrived in Washington last Tuesday, was a Captain who had been paroled at Vicksburg after its surrender. The fellow, it appears, violated his parole by returning at once to the rebel service. Unless there is the most disgusting imbecility among the military authorities at the capital, he will certainly be hung like a dog or shot like a wild beast.

It is stated not only by Federal spies but by deserters from Gen. Johnston's army in Mississippi, that some of the rebel officers and men paroled at Vicksburg went voluntarily into Gen. J.'s ranks, and that others were forced in. We have no doubt that all are in the rebel service except such as escaped by flight. Deserters from Bragg's army concur in testifying that he, like Johnston, compels the service of all paroled rebels who do not take their places under him of their own accord.

No doubt it is the established policy of the rebels that their paroled officers and men shall bear arms without waiting to be exchanged. Some of our readers may remember, that nearly or quite two years ago, the rebel President put forth a document, a letter or order, declaring that all paroled rebel officers and soldiers must consider themselves freed from the obligations of their paroles and act accordingly. He alleged some sort of contemptible pretext for this perfidious and infamous action, but there is no evidence that he has ever modified in practice or even in the theory the policy then formally announced.

We have no doubt that a large majority of all the paroled rebels take their places at once among the rebel troops. The most obvious remedy would be to stop the whole system of paroles and to hold all captured rebels prisoners until duly exchanged. But the stopping of paroles would operate with fearful severity upon our poor fellows in the hands of the enemy, for they are half starved, fed scantily and miserably upon perhaps quarter rations of food that would sicken the stomach of a gentleman's setter or hound, and packed together by scores and fifties in close and pestilential rooms, perhaps dungeons, where they have to pant and labor for a breath of air to fill their lungs, while on the other hand the rebel prisoners among us are as well fed and lodged as our own soldiers, fed and lodged in fact far better than they ever were in the armies of their Confederacy. Thus in the game of imprisonment without parole, the odds would be all on the side of the rebels. There is, then, but one course for us to adopt; we must put to death the paroled rebels taken in arms against us. This rule, 't' be true, may seem somewhat hard in its application to those, who, in spite of their

own will, are required to go into the Confederate service, but, in the first place, they have no right to let themselves be compelled to violate their paroles, be the penalty of their refusal what it may, and in the second place, our Government must, at all hazards, protect itself and its people against rebel perfidy.

After having written thus far, we received our noon despatches of yesterday, in which it is stated on rebel authority, that Gen. Pemberton's corps, paroled at Vicksburg, is to be at once "organized and placed in the field." Now it is not pretended that a solitary man of Pemberton's corps, has been exchanged. The placing of them in the field, unexchanged, if such a thing be done by the rebel authorities, will inaugurate a terrible state of affairs and make the rebels a set of outlaws in the eyes of all mankind.—*Louisville Jour.*

The Number of Women Killed at Vicksburg.

Captain Harry McDougal, who has spent several days at Vicksburg since its surrender, writes the New Albany Ledger that he has made the most careful enquiry as to the actual number of women killed in the city during the bombardment of the town by Gen. Grant. He learns that the number is 100. Besides these, a number of children were also killed. Captain McDougal states that, during the bombardment, it was not an uncommon sight for women to be seen, parasol in hand, promenading the streets, and that the number of them killed is attributable to the bravado spirit with which they thus exposed themselves. In one instance of the death of children, eight or ten little boys were playing together in front of one of the caves dug into the hill-side for the protection of the women and children; a shell exploded in their midst, killing seven of them. One little fellow, a most interesting child, and son of a formerly prominent merchant of the town, was literally torn into fragments.

Gen. Pemberton refused to allow the women and children to leave the city, and he is therefore responsible for the deaths of the women and little innocents killed during the bombardment. These statements were obtained from one of the principal business men of Vicksburg, and are doubtless correct.

A physician, speaking of the frail constitution of the women of the present day, says we ought to take great care of our grandmothers for we shall never get any more.

"Order is Heaven's first law," but Burnside's "Order No. 120" seems to go devilish hard with the rebels and rebel sympathizers.—*Louisville Journal.*